

2011

Summit Schedule

Saturday, September 17, 2011

- 8:00 –9:00 A.M. **Registration**
- 9:00 – 9:10 A.M. **Welcome:** Johanna Shreve, Chief Tenant Advocate
- 9:10 – 9:30 A.M. **Keynote Address:** Johnny Barnes, Executive Director, The American Civil Liberties Union of the Nation’s Capital
- 9:30 –10:00 A.M. **Special Guest Remarks**
- The Honorable Mary Cheh**, Councilmember Ward 3
 The Honorable Muriel Bowser, Councilmember Ward 4
 The Honorable Harry Thomas, Councilmember Ward 5
 The Honorable Kwame Brown, Chairman, DC Council (**tentative**)
- 10:15 –10:30 A.M. **The Honorable Vincent C. Gray**, Mayor of the District of Columbia (to introduce the following panel)
- 10:30 am – 12 P.M. **Affordable Housing in the District –Where We Are and Where We Need to Be**
- In 2003, the District established an affordable housing task force to “assess the quality and availability of housing for households at all income levels in the District of Columbia.” In 2006, the task force issued a detailed 15-year plan to accomplish these goals and this past July the Brookings Institution issued a 5-year progress report. This panel will provide an overview of both the 2006 plan and the 2011 progress report, and will offer perspectives on “where we need to be” as well as “where are we now.”
- Moderator **Johanna Shreve**, Chief Tenant Advocate
- Panelists **Alice Rivlin**, Senior Fellow, Brookings Institution
 Benjamin Orr, Research Analyst, Brookings Institution
 Victor Hoskins, Deputy Mayor for Policy & Economic Development
 Harry Sewell, Executive Director, D.C. Housing Finance Agency
- 12 NOON – 1:00 P.M. **LUNCH / LUNCHEON SPEAKER**
- Mark Plotkin**, Political Commentator and Analyst, WTOP 103.5 FM

1:15 – 2:30 P.M.

The District's Affordable Housing Programs in a Rent Control Environment

This session will offer a more specific review of the District's affordable housing programs, particularly those aimed at renters, in terms of each program's goals, successes, challenges, and funding trends. Panelists will discuss their recommendations for enhancing the availability, quality, and continuum of affordable rental housing in the District. The interplay between these programs and rent control, the District's only non-subsidized affordable housing tool, will also be discussed.

Moderator

Johanna Shreve, Chief Tenant Advocate

Panelists

The Honorable Michael A. Brown, At-Large Member of the D.C. Council
John E. Hall, Director, D.C. Department of Housing and Community Development
Jenny Reed, Policy Analyst, DC Fiscal Policy Institute
Bob Pohlman, Executive Director, Coalition for Nonprofit Housing & Economic Development

1:15 – 2:30 P.M.

Developments in Federal Housing Programs and Potential Impacts for District Tenants

This session will review recent developments in federal housing programs, including proposals to address economic, budgetary, and policy challenges, and the potential impacts on the District's public housing and section 8 tenants. Possible topics will include recent federal housing budgets, the federal debt ceiling agreement, and proposals for public-private partnerships to address the capital needs of the nation's public housing stock.

Moderator

Dennis Taylor, General Counsel, D.C. Office of the Tenant Advocate

Panelists

Adrienne Todman, Executive Director, DC Housing Authority
Linda Leaks, Affordable Housing Organizer, Empower DC
Mary Ann Henderson, Director, U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development --Baltimore Multifamily Hub
Linda Couch, Senior Vice President for Policy, National Low Income Housing Coalition

1:15 – 2:30 P.M. **Ways Tenant Associations Can Help Tenants**

This session will address how your tenant association can help all residents, for example, by discussing the importance of renters' insurance. Senior residents in particular can be helped, for example, by assisting them in registering for the lower rent cap that they are entitled to under the District's rent control law, and by providing information about guardianship, wills, power of attorney (POA) and other personal designee matters. Learn how to make your association a vehicle for improving the quality of life of its members.

Moderator **Delores Anderson**, Case Management Specialist, D.C. Office of the Tenant Advocate

Panelists **Jennifer Berger**, Supervisory Legal Aid Attorney, AARP Legal Counsel for the Elderly
Art Slade, D.C. Dept. of Insurance Securities and Banking (**tentative**)

2:45 – 4:00 P.M. **Rent Control & Rental Housing Act Reform**

This session will review rent control reform proposals that emerged before and after last year's reauthorization of the Rental Housing Act of 1985, with an emphasis on priority items that panelists believe the Council should act upon right away.

Moderator **Joel Cohn**, Legislative Director, D.C. Office of the Tenant Advocate

Panelists **Drew Hubbard**, Committee Clerk, D.C. Council Committee on Housing and Workforce Development
David Conn, attorney, Tenant Action Network
Mary Young, Chairperson, Idaho Terrace Tenant Association (Chair, OTA Working Group on Rent Increases)
Tom Gregory, Member of the Board of Directors, 4000 Mass. Ave. Tenant Association (Chair, OTA Working Group on Housing Provider Petitions)
Cynthia Pols, Vice President, Briarcliff Tenant Association (Chair, OTA Working Group on Enforcement)

2:45 – 4:00 P.M.

**Tenants' Rights Basics 101: What Every DC Tenant Needs to Know!
(Spanish and English)**

This session is designed to inform Spanish and English-speaking tenants about the basic rights of tenancy in the District regarding leases, security deposits, the right to certain information about the property, rent control when it applies, habitability, quiet enjoyment, housing discrimination, retaliation, the right to organize, conversions and sales, relocation assistance, and evictions.

Presenters

Jennifer Berger, Supervisory Legal Aid Attorney, AARP Legal Counsel for the Elderly

Manuel Bolanos, Case Management Specialist, D.C. Office of the Tenant Advocate

Hicham Mokhtari, Language Access Coordinator, D.C. Office of the Tenant Advocate

CLINICS TO HELP TENANTS ON AN INDIVIDUAL BASIS

1:00 – 3:00 P.M.

Tenant Legal Consultation Clinic

Do you have a legal issue regarding your tenancy? The attorneys of the Office of the Tenant Advocate will be on hand to discuss your rights and responsibilities. If you are seeking a consultation, please bring a copy of your lease and any other relevant documents.

1:00 – 3:00 P.M.

Elderly Tenants / Tenants with Disabilities Registration Clinic

Are you age 62 or over or do you have a disability? If so, and if you live in a rent-controlled apartment, then you qualify for a lower cap on rent increases (just the annual consumer price index, instead of the “annual CPI plus 2 percent” cap that applies to other tenants). However, you must register your status as an elderly tenant, or as a tenant with a disability, with the Rent Administrator’s office. OTA staff will be on hand to help you fill out the registration form and complete the filing.